

help guide me in the right direction as a public servant and make the right decision for those who put their trust in me.

Father Hesburgh was always challenging those he met to be a better person, and the Hesburgh Center for Peace studies is a lasting and continuing tribute to his good work. In addition, his accomplishments from 15 Presidential appointments have contributed greatly to our progress as a nation which strives to provide justice and equality for its people and those throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to salute Father Hesburgh and to commend the House of Representatives for passing H.R. 1932, which authorizes the President of the United States to award him with a gold medal on behalf of Congress. I can think of none more deserving of this most prestigious honor.

HONORING GEORGE BROWN AND
LINUS PAULING

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to call your attention to an exhibition that has recently opened at the National Museum of Health and Medicine: "Linus Pauling and the Twentieth Century." This exhibition, which was viewed by more than 20,000 school children at the California Institute of Technology, was brought to Washington largely through the efforts of our late friend and colleague, George E. Brown, Jr.

Congressman Brown, as we all know, held a passionate belief that there is a special relationship between excellence in education, pushing back the frontiers of scientific knowledge, and the pursuit of peace. These themes are celebrated by the exhibition on the life, work and times of Linus Pauling.

Dr. Pauling is the only person ever to win two unshared Nobel prizes. In 1954 he was given the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the discovery of the nature of the chemical bond, and in 1962 he won the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to end atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons. Congressman Brown believed that Pauling's commitment to science and to an unwavering idealism make the exhibition on his life especially instructive to today's young people.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in honoring Congressman Brown for his efforts to bring this exhibition to the Nation's Capital, and to express our appreciation to the organizing committee for making the exhibit possible: Oregon State University, the Linus Pauling family, and the Soka Gakkai International and its founder, Daisaku Ikeda, whose friendship with Pauling inspired the exhibit.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE ARKANSAS
BANKERS ASSOCIATION'S SUP-
PORT FOR FINANCIAL MOD-
ERNIZATION

HON. ASA HUTCHINSON

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Arkansas Bankers Association, I would like to submit their remarks regarding a specific section of S. 900, the Financial Modernization bill, which has particular interest and importance to Arkansas. This section is titled "Interest Rates and Other Charges at Interstate Branches."

With the passage of the Riegle-Neal Interstate Banking and Branching Act several years ago, the question arose as to which state law concerning interest rates on loans would apply to branches of the interstate banks operating in a "host state". Would those branches be governed by the interest rate ceiling of the charter location or that of their physical location? The office of the Comptroller of the Currency and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation addressed this issue with options that basically give branches of interstate banks the option of being governed by either their home or host state requirements concerning interest rates by structuring the loan process to meet certain requirements.

In Arkansas this has had a profound effect upon our local banking community. Arkansas has a usury ceiling that places the maximum rate that can be charged for many classes of loans at 5% above the Federal Reserve Discount Rate. However, over 40% of our banking locations in the state, those that are branches of non-Arkansas based interstate banks, are in effect no longer governed by this law. The out of state banks are free to price according to risk, and thus charge lower rates for the better credits and higher rates for the lower quality credits. However, local Arkansas banks cannot price according to risk and are thus placed at a significant competitive disadvantage.

In recognition of this inequity and the fact that if not corrected our state may lose virtually all of its local community banks, the Arkansas delegation supports language that provides our local banks with the loan pricing parity in all regards with non-Arkansas interstate banks operating branches in Arkansas. Indeed, this is the intent of the section concerning Interest Rates at Interstate Branching.

The entire Arkansas Delegation is on record supporting this section as well as Governor Mike Huckabee, and Bank Commissioner Frank White. Further, a joint meeting of the state house unanimously passed a resolution requesting the Arkansas Congressional Delegation to address this important issue.

Very simply, the situation of placing local Arkansas banks at a severe competitive disadvantage is a result of the comptroller-general's interpretation of the Riegle-Neal Interstate Banking and Branching Act.

Mr. Speaker, from these words it is clear that the legislation is intended to assist community banks in Arkansas and allow Arkansans to receive loans and invest funds in their home state. With the passage of S. 900, I want to congratulate my colleagues on a job well done. This legislation will enable our fi-

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nancial industry to move into the next century. This bill not only helps states like Arkansas, but the nation as a whole.

PASSAGE OF H.R. 3090

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I would like to provide additional explanatory information regarding the provisions in H.R. 3090.

At the time of passage of H.R. 3090 by the Committee on Resources, the Committee Members on both sides of the aisle agreed that there were likely to be additional changes to this bill prior to its being taken to the floor of the House. Such changes were ones that the Committee anticipated would be developed between the Department of Interior and Elim as well as with the concurrence of the majority and the minority of the Committee. Those changes were worked out. A number of improvements were made to the bill in addition to some reorganization of the sections to assist in providing clarity to the bill. What follows is a brief explanation and a section-by-section analysis of the bill as it is brought before the House.

As I had indicated in my earlier remarks, this legislation is long overdue. It is a matter of equity and fairness that, in furtherance of the underlying goals of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), replacement lands should be conveyed to the Elim Native Corporation under Section 19 of ANCSA. The Committee's intent is that such conveyances authorized in this legislation be treated as other conveyances to Elim were treated in the past with respect to other applicable sections of ANCSA, except that the conveyances under the bill will additionally have certain covenants, reservations, terms, and conditions that are applicable.

It is recognized that the watersheds that are likely to be selected under this provision (Clear Creek, Tubutulik River, and the Qwik River) are ones which provide a vital source of food in the form of fish as well as sustenance for wildlife and plants on which the people of Elim are, in part, dependent.

The Committee considered utilizing the lands on the eastern edge of the original Norton Bay Reservation as replacement lands to Elim for the 50,000 acres which were deleted in 1929. However, because—(1) there have been a number of acres of those lands (in particular along the coastline) which had been conveyed to the Village of Koyuk or which were subject to allotments; (2) of the sensitivity of that area to Koyuk; (3) with the knowledge today that, the rivers to the north of the original Norton Bay Reservation are of substantial significance to the long-term viability of the Elim Native Corporation in to the future, the Committee concluded that the area to the north of the current of boundary of Elim land holdings was a more appropriate place from which Elim should select replacement lands than the original area deleted in 1929.

In addition, provisions were negotiated with Elim which represent a good faith effort by all